



September 5, 2017

The Department of State Health Services determined that the increase in mosquitoes presents a public health threat to Texans and those responding to the storm affected areas. As such, DSHS requested waiver of certain FEMA requirements relating to eligibility for federal reimbursement. The attached document is FEMA's waiver of the requirements and a statement that FEMA will reimburse 100 percent of the costs for Harvey related vector control activities for a period of 30 days.

DSHS encourages local jurisdictions to begin actions to reduce mosquito populations including the use of adulticides and larvicides. These actions should include aerial application of these chemicals for entities that have the capability.

DSHS activated its state vector control contract as well as federal resources to initiate broad based mosquito control activities to supplement local efforts. Planning for these activities, including aerial applications, is ongoing and DSHS will be reaching out through the DDCs to communicate spraying plans. If you are or plan to conduct air operations for vector control, please contact DSHS at dshsplanning@dshs.texas.gov so that we may coordinate activities to ensure we do not duplicate or establish conflicting efforts.